

## VERMONT NEWS

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## Danville

A Free Supper a Feature of Christmas Exercises—Ordinary Happenings of the Week.

The free supper which was given at the Methodist Church, Dec. 24th, was very well attended, about 80 being present. The supper was served at 5:30, the children being served first and later the grown ups. After the supper, at 8 o'clock a splendid entertainment was given by the children and Christmas anthems were sung by the choir. After the exercises Santa Claus and the distribution of the presents were greatly enjoyed by the children.

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Heath spent Sunday at Olanda Heath's in Cabot. Mrs. Van Ness Worthen has been visiting relatives at Newport.

News has been received here of the death of Milo Crane of Somerville, Mass. Mr. Crane has been a frequent visitor in town and leaves many friends here, as well as relatives.

Miss May Wilson did not return to her school Monday at North Danville on account of the illness of her mother, Mrs. C. H. Wilson.

Byron Wright and family of Barre were Christmas guests at A. C. McLean's.

The subject of the pastor's sermon at the Methodist Church next Sunday morning will be "A New Year's Exhortation," and the subject for the evening service "Retrospect and Prospect." There is to be special music in the evening.

Charles Crane of Cabot was in town Sunday.

Nearly 200 people gathered at the Congregational Church Christmas Eve to witness the exercises and trees. The church was in holiday attire with wreaths, festoons and bells of green and red and a large lighted star over the organ. Great credit is due to those who had charge of that part of the work as well as those who prepared the program. The boys and girls rendered their parts of the exercises very well and a double quartet furnished excellent music.

The Young Men's Club will meet with Mr. and Mrs. Adams New Year's Eve, for a social hour. This is the club's ladies night.

There will be a special New Year's topic at the Congregational Church next Sunday.

The following officers were elected for their Congregational Sunday school for 1915: Superintendent, J. W. Gillis; assistant superintendent, C. W. Lang; secretary-treasurer, Miss Alice Page; assistant secretary, Miss Alice Page; treasurer, Miss Lorinda Hardy; superintendent primary department, Mrs. C. H. Kimball; assistant, Mrs. A. E. Currier.

Miss Hazel Hack of Barre was the guest of Miss May Wilson over Sunday.

The 500 Club was entertained by Mrs. Ernest Moore at C. H. Davis' last Monday evening.

Benjamin Greenbank of Boston spent Christmas with his brother, Foster Greenbank.

David Henderson and family of St. Johnsbury spent the week end with Mrs. Henderson's parents, Mr. and Mrs. David Henderson.

Gilman Howe and family of St. Johnsbury were at Mrs. Howe's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Newell for Christmas.

Mr. and Mrs. Lue Huntington of Burlington spent the week end with her mother, Mrs. Abbie Crane.

Leslie Ranney of East Ryegate spent the latter part of last week with his father, C. S. Ranney.

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Barbara Morgan is out again after having been confined to the house for five weeks.

Mrs. Kate Kinney returned Friday from Perkinsville, Vt., where she has been with her son, Fred, for a number of weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. Ira J. Albee and Marjorie and Mrs. Mrs. Sherb Moore spent Christmas at Fred Potts' at St. Johnsbury.

Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Brock spent Dec. 25, with Mr. and Mrs. F. O. French at St. Johnsbury.

Miss May Gillman came home from Springfield, Mass., last week. She brought Lyman Brock's two boys to spend the holidays with their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Brock.

The Minnetoska Campfire Girls were invited to a Christmas tree at the home of Ira Albee Friday evening. They were all present but two.

Mr. and Mrs. Theron Robie and Catherine went to Hanover, N. H., last week to spend Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Peck.

Mr. and Mrs. Grant and two children and Mr. Amadon's sister from St. Johnsbury and Mr. Walker's family and Perley Amadon from St. Johnsbury spent Christmas at Mr. Amadon's. The Amadons had a piano for a Christmas gift.

There will be a family party at Chester Somers' Christmas day, consisting of the Somers family, Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Willson and son Lawrence, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Drew and daughter, Dorothy, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Kendall, Charlie Cushman and Harleigh Somers.

There will be a basket ball game New Year's night between the fats and leans of Barre and West Barre at the Town Hall.

Harvey Drew started Monday morning for Milbury, Mass., to work two weeks on trial doing stable work for a Mr. Carter that keeps fancy cattle and poultry and dogs. If he likes he will move his family there in two weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Quimby from Monroe and Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Ayer from Passumpsic spent Christmas at Perley Ayer's.

Mrs. Ada Brown and Eva Emery spent Christmas at Ed Newell's at East Barre.

Neal Morgan and Marion Goss and daughter were at Ed Morgan's to spend Christmas.

Quite a good many were in St. Johnsbury last week doing Christmas shopping.

(From another correspondent)

Mrs. Harry Batchelder, who has been stopping for some weeks at Horace Gillman's, joined her husband in Woodstock, Conn., last week Saturday.

Miss Nancy Blair of West Lebanon, N. H., accompanied by her friend, Miss Blanche Haskell of Norwich, spent the week end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Blair.

Roland Robinson spent several days last week with his aunt, Mrs. Julius Lang, at North Monroe, N. H. Joseph Simonds and wife spent Christmas with their daughter, Mrs. Will City at East Barre.

Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Gadley spent Friday last week at the home of Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Darling's, in Peacham, Garfield Darling's, in

Moses Laundry has sold his farm at East St. Johnsbury and moved in with his son, John Laundry for the remainder of the winter.

Richard Harris of Hyannis, Mass., is visiting his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Harris for a few days.

Julius P. Laughlin is spending this week at the Mission House in New York City.

Buck Wilson has gone back on the railroad to work.

Philip Smith of Bangor, Me., is visiting his grandmother, Mrs. Ella Mason, for a few days.

Miss Beatrice Parker returned to school at Derby Academy this week Monday.

The Law and the Profits.

I want to tell Mr. Chapin what I know about offsets and what I know I am about sure of. I know before offsets were abolished I paid about \$50 per year in taxes. While since then I have paid about \$73, and while that is about all I know about offsets and the tax question in general, it is all I want to know.

J. H. Neill of Waitsfield.

He is a specimen of the sort of argument that will be used in Montpelier next month to secure the repeal of the law abolishing offsets.

Mr. Neill does not say whether the tax was just and lawful, as it was, undoubtedly.

He does not tell how he previously succeeded in evading taxation to the extent of \$23.

He merely knows that he has been compelled to "come across" with what he owes the community, and, like all caught-up delinquents, rage and revolt unspeakable fill his soul.

Lacking knowledge of Mr. Neill's circumstances, The Herald would stay that undoubtedly the law was passed for the particular benefit of Mr. Neill and his sort and that it had accomplished a righteous end in collecting the additional tax. A man with property worth from \$4,000 to \$5,000 is not an object of charity, nor should excessive sympathy be expended on him.

The offset allowed by the sister through discretion in assessing the value of property is an unmixed evil, capable of being expanded into an avenue of evasion beyond the conception of the average man for possibilities of fraud. It will be a distinct retrogression if it is restored as a factor in Vermont's taxation problem.

One of the established avenues of tortuous profit in practically every Vermont town has been the concealment of taxable property. In this devious enterprise, the offset has done more perhaps than any other privilege to make men tax dodgers and perjurers.

The Herald trusts that the agonized shrieks of the men who have been compelled to pay more tax under the abolition of offsets will not have too serious weight in the legislature of 1915.—Rutland Herald.

The 25 cent piece was made famous by the American Liver Tablets, the perfect laxative.

## Peacham

Ewell's Hollow School Closed on Account of Chicken Pox—Personal Items.

Eva Allen, Clyde and Carroll Brown and Robert Welch have chicken pox. The school at Ewell's Hollow is discontinued for the present. Mr. and Mrs. Albert Peak spent Christmas at Fred Foan's at St. Johnsbury.

James Allen is spending his vacation from his school at Johnson with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. B. Allen.

Miss Arlene Thurston has returned to her work at the central office after a week at her home in Walden.

Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Lamb went to East Corinth Thursday to visit Mrs. Lamb's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Rowland.

Last week was a time of extremely cold weather. Many had busy times thawing out water pipes.

The Ladies Aid of the M. E. Church will hold their annual election of officers and dinner at the church New Year's day.

There will be a watch meeting at the M. E. Church Thursday evening, beginning at 10 o'clock.

Rev. Arthur Green was at East Burke Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Miss Bertha Richardson has been spending her vacation at her home in Melrose, Mass.

Miss Margaret Darling is at William Butson's.

Miss Achsah Woodward of the north part is quite sick and her sister, Mrs. Olive Norman of Bethlehem, N. H., came Monday to help care for her.

The friends of Mrs. Harriet Swanson, who is in the hospital in Boston, will be pleased to know that she is gaining slowly and that she received about 200 post cards and letters from friends, all of which she has read many times.

Arthur Aiken has moved into the Williams' house at Peacham Corner, vacated by Mr. Weeks and family.

Wilbur Watson was quite badly injured recently by a limb of a tree which he was chopping.

Ira and Sidney Farrow are spending their vacation from their school at Lowell, Mass., with their parents.

## SHEFFIELD

Melvin Drown went to Boston Dec. 9, for medical treatment. Dec. 23, he underwent an operation which was very serious. But at writing there are very little hopes of recovery. His many friends are anxiously waiting to hear he may be better.

Ed LaMore is here visiting his family from Waterbury, Conn.

Mrs. Amasa Gray visited her daughter, Cora, at Lyndonville over Sunday.

Mrs. George Phillips and daughter Flossie from Springfield, Mass., are visiting at her father, Charles Bickford's.

Mrs. Jack Drown has been called to Boston on account of the illness of her son, Melvin.

Mrs. Fred Gay of New London, N. H., is with her father, Jack Drown. Paul Willard is gaining slowly.

Harley Keniston still remains hard sick.

Arthur Dunton lost one of his work horses last week.

Miss Fisher and Miss Duncan spent Christmas at their homes in Monroe, N. H.

B. U. Wells and family spent Christmas at W. S. Willard's, also Mrs. Colby.

Will Walker has hired W. S. Willard's store.

Jennie Richards remains about the same.

## WEST BURKE

Mrs. Ward Wheeler is caring for Mrs. John Woods and baby at F. T. Porter's.

Miss Mertie Gaskill of Lyndon spent Sunday with Miss Pearl Densmore.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred French of St. Johnsbury visited at Almont Silsby's Christmas.

Professor and Mrs. E. E. Orcutt of Woodville spent Christmas with relatives here.

Miss Myra Walter spent Sunday at her home in East Burke.

Sidney Brigham remains about the same.

Mrs. Effie Winter of Nashua, N. H., visited at Adna Abar's one day last week.

Claude Roudy was in Orleans last week the guest of Bert Dean.

Mr. and Mrs. Murray Orcutt and little son of Newport spent Christmas

mass with Mr. and Mrs. Adna Abar. Miss Abbott of St. Johnsbury has been hired to teach the primary room in the graded school here.

Miss Joe Anna Donelson of Lyndonville spent Christmas at her home in Newark and also visited at R. W. Deuson's.

Miss Daisy Ignalls and Elmer Smith, both of this place were married at Barre Dec. 24 and will make their home in Lowell.

Mrs. Effie Solomon is in Hartford, Conn., visiting relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Hill and son, Alder, spent Christmas with Mrs. Hill's parents at Newark.

Mrs. Bessie Moore and Elmer Miles were married last week by Rev. J. Q. Angell. They will reside here for the present.

Earnest Buck of Wilder is spending the holidays at his home here.

Melvin Berry has moved his family into the Smith house.

## ST. JOHNSBURY CENTER

First District Meeting Monday—Will Act On New Water Supply.

On Monday evening, Jan. 4th, the legal voters in Fire District No. 1, are notified to meet in Fireman's hall to choose officers and to see what action will be taken in regard to a water supply and any other business.

On Sunday evening at the Methodist church a Union service was held. Special music was given by St. Johnsbury people and a number of the members of the Epworth League were present.

Rev. Mr. Lowe spoke very interestingly.

The Methodist prayer meeting will be held with Mrs. Jonathan Huntley on Wednesday evening.

The H and D class will meet Wednesday evening. All the boys who would like to join the class are invited to come.

C. Palmer who has been quite sick is a little better.

Mrs. Carl Rollins of Barton spent Sunday with Mrs. Bert McLaughlin.

On Friday and Saturday of last week, the people realized that winter was here and that Jack Frost was leaving traces of his handiwork on all corners and panes. The thermometer registered from 40 to 50 degrees below zero.

Rev. Mr. Grant will preach to the men of the community Jan. 10th.

Miss Lucy Hutchinson of North Dartmouth called on old friends here last week.

The union Christmas tree was well attended and the exercises were well carried out. Rev. Mr. Eaton spoke very interestingly to the children and Emerson Campbell who was Santa Claus made much fun and laughter. The church was prettily decorated with Christmas bells and evergreen.

Mrs. Jonathan Huntley gave dolls to all the babies in the village who had never seen Christmas. The Universalist committee who had the exercises in charge feel very grateful to all who helped to make the evening a pleasant one.

## Death of Mrs. Josiah Ward

Mrs. Mianda Ward, who was one of the oldest women in the village, passed away at her home Monday morning, Dec. 28, 1914. She was the daughter of Elsie Leach and Hiram Ayer and was born in Burke, Aug. 22, 1825. On Jan. 6, 1850, she married J. Ward, who died Sept. 17, 1893. She has always made her home in this village with the exception of two years, which were spent in Newbury. She was the oldest member of the Methodist Church and always did her part to support it.

After Mr. Ward's death she sold the farm, which is now owned by Luther Brown and bought a small house in the village. Mrs. Ward loved children and in her early days when she lived on the farm, would invite them to her home and the stories and good times there will long be remembered. She was one of a family of five children, two of whom survive her. Mrs. Worthen of White River Junction,

who was with her in her last sickness and Mrs. Houghton of East Lyndon, who is 92 years old and in a very feeble condition. Mrs. Ward has always lived a Christian life and her example and good will that she showed will live on for ever. The funeral services will be held at the house Wednesday afternoon at 1:30. Rev. Blodgett and R. F. Stowe have charge. The bearers will be relatives of the family.

Mrs. Allie Thurber and son, Guy, of Coventry, visited Mrs. Lizzie Thurber on Monday.

Frank Kimball, who has been working at Windsor, is back for a few days.

## WHEELLOCK

The sick ones are on the gain with the exception of Rodney Orcutt, who was worse Sunday, but at this writing is a little more comfortable.